



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Nordine CHEIKH *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/976,054

Filed: October 15, 2001

For: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with the Cytokinin Pathway

Confirmation No.: 3580

Art Unit: 1647

Examiner: M.P. Allen

Atty. Docket: 16517.256

**Response in Conjunction
with Request for Continued Examination**

Mail Stop- RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In conjunction with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office herewith, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks in response to the Office Action mailed March 16, 2006 (hereinafter "Final Action").

Amendments to Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.